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COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS WITH
THE HOST COUNTRY

LETTER DATED 9 NOVEMBER 1994 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF
THE PERMANENT MISSION OF CUBA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

I have the honour kindly to request the circulation of the present letter
and its annex as an official document of the Committee on Relations with the
Host Country.

(Signed) Bruno RODRIGUEZ PARRILLA



ANNEX

Note verbale dated 9 November 1994 from the Permanent Mission
of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the United States
Mission to the United Nations

The Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United States Mission to the United Nations and has the honour to refer to note No. HC-76-94 of 20 October 1994 from the United States Mission to the United Nations, in response to notes Nos. 551 and 556 of 30 August 1994 from the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations, regarding the incidents which occurred on that date in the vicinity of the Permanent Mission of Cuba.

The Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations notes that the United States Mission to the United Nations regrets the violent actions directed at the Permanent Mission of Cuba and states that the Government of the United States condemns all acts which violate the premises of diplomatic missions and/or the personal and physical security of mission personnel. Moreover, the Permanent Mission of Cuba also notes that the Government of the United States remains fully committed to providing the necessary protection required to ensure the safety and security of diplomatic personnel and property.

Nevertheless, the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations believes that, by virtue of the obligations emanating from the norms of international law and, in particular, from the international instruments addressing the security and protection of diplomatic missions as well as from the Host Country Agreement signed with the United Nations, the responsibilities of the United States authorities cannot be limited to condemning violent actions against the premises of diplomatic missions and/or the personal and physical security of mission personnel, but should be geared to the adoption of all appropriate preventive measures to avoid those actions, as well as to the punishment of those who commit such actions.

The Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations has repeatedly informed the United States Mission of the actions that have been taking place in the vicinity of the Permanent Mission of Cuba, as well as against Cuban diplomatic officials and their families during the so-called "demonstrations" that are held facing the Permanent Mission of Cuba, including the provocative, disrespectful and threatening nature of actions carried out by those participating in the "demonstrations". The Permanent Mission of Cuba has also repeatedly called the attention of the United States Mission to the need for appropriate measures to put an end to such a situation, which continuously inconveniences the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations and affects the discharge of its diplomatic duties. The incidents which occurred on 30 August last, carried out by the terrorist group "30 de Noviembre", demonstrate once again the need to adopt the measures requested by the Permanent Mission of Cuba.

The Permanent Mission of Cuba completely disagrees with the views expressed by the United States Mission regarding the measures adopted by the Police both when the actions by the above-mentioned terrorist group were taking place, as

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well as when they ended. The opinions of the Permanent Mission of Cuba are corroborated by the information provided by officers and other personnel of the Permanent Mission who witnessed the incident and by videotapes of what occurred.

The attempt to storm the Permanent Mission of Cuba and the chaining of the main door of the Mission by the terrorist group could have been avoided if the premises of the Mission had been adequately protected. The lack of appropriate measures by police officers compelled diplomatic officials and personnel of the Permanent Mission of Cuba to legitimately defend themselves against obviously aggressive acts against them.

The United States Mission evades in its note any reference to the treatment received by four diplomatic officials of the Permanent Mission of Cuba, who were handcuffed, held in police vehicles, mistreated and detained in the same premises as the terrorist elements who had attacked them for several hours, even after being duly identified as diplomatic officials.

The Permanent Mission of Cuba takes note of the indication by the United States Mission that the Police Department is considering changes in the procedures regarding the recurrent "demonstrations" in the vicinity of the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations, and expects that the host country will carry out these new measures regarding "demonstrations" as soon as possible, as well as measures regarding the protection and security of the premises and personnel of the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations, in avoidance of actions such as those occurring up to now.
